

REMARKS

Claims 133-153 are currently allowed. Claims 133, 140, and 147 are amended.

Examiner's Amendment

Applicants acknowledge Examiner's Amendment as set forth in the Notice of Allowance. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment is not narrowing, but merely makes more explicit that the elements in question are recited inclusively in the alternative. In all of the claims, the conjunction "or" is to be construed inclusively (e.g., "a dog, a cat, or a mouse" or "a dog or a cat or a mouse" would be interpreted as "a dog, or a cat, or a mouse, or any two, or all three"; Bryan A. Garner, Elements of Legal Style p. 103, 2nd ed. 2002), unless: (i) it is explicitly stated otherwise, e.g., by use of "either...or", "only one of", or similar language; or (ii) two or more of the listed alternatives are mutually exclusive within the context of the claim, in which case "or" would encompass only those combinations involving non-mutually-exclusive alternatives.

Amendment under 37 CFR § 1.312

In the course of preparing a divisional application a drafting error was discovered affecting each of the independent claims. In the next-to-last step of each independent claim (i.e., "determining...a re-sale price..."), the "purchase price" is mistakenly referred to later in the step instead of the "re-sale price." As a result of the error, the remainder of the next-to-last step merely repeats limitations of an earlier step (i.e., "determining...a purchase price...") instead of further defining the next-to-last step.

The amendment set forth above corrects that error. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment is needed for internal consistency of each of the independent claims. Since the amendment does not remove or broaden any elements or limitations of the claims, Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment does not broaden the scope of the claims, require substantive additional examination of the application, or alter the patentability of the claims. The amendment was not presented earlier because the error was only just discovered. Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendment without withdrawing allowance of the application.

Conclusion

In view of the above, it is believed that Claims 133-153 remain allowable. Issue of the application as a patent at an early date is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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